

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub. A1 1. A method for operating a network among a plurality of communication devices, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) using a first communication device to perform an inquiry which checks whether or not other communication devices are present in the communicable range of the first communication device, and determining the presence of other communications according to a response to the inquiry; and

(b) when there is a response to the inquiry in the step (a), establishing a connection with the network and then, causing the first communication device to change into a role of slave and to receive network information from the master of the network.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of establishing the first communication device as a master of the network and causing the first communication device to store slave information and to broadcast the slave information to other slaves when there is no response to the inquiry in the step (a).

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of changing modes of the slaves in the network, after repeating inquiry and page scan when there is no response in the step (a), so that connections to incoming slaves of the network are established.

4. The method of claim 2, further comprising a step of designating a back-up master order at the time of entry into the network in step (b) and broadcasting the back-up master order to other slaves.

5. The method of claim 2, further comprising a step of determining a master according to a designated back-up master order if there is no network master established in step (b).

6. The method of claim 2, further comprising a step of changing the first communication device into a Park mode if the first communication device does not communicate with another device after receiving network information from the network master, receiving information broadcast by the network master, and updating the network information received in step (b).

Add A2